



# Ralph Butterfield Primary School

## School Newsletter



Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021

2021/22 Newsletter No: 9



01904 768325



@RalphBPSch\_York



[www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk](http://www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk)

### Headteacher's Update

Your children have really shone in the last 2 weeks in the way they have demonstrated a wonderful ability to understand and be thoughtful about different challenges that people experience. All children from 4 years old to 11 years old respectfully and silently observed the silence for Remembrance last week and it was such a special moment. This week they have had fun with the Children in Need dress up whilst also appreciating they are helping children who need additional help.

I can share that we have had no further positive cases of Covid-19 reported, either children or staff, for over a week. As you know, we have a controlled open event for prospective parents/carers in December, all being well, and we are also now pleased to be talking about ways in which we can invite all of our parents/carers back into school in small numbers e.g. to look at the children's work. These are likely to be from January onwards.

Unfortunately, there is a delay on the finish date for the roofing works as a result of delivery issues. I previously shared a finish date with you that was prior to the end of November; this is now more likely to be mid-December.

I would like to say a really big thank you to our Reception parents/carers for being so incredibly patient and understanding as we navigate through challenges of longer term staff absence within that team. Mrs Greenwood and Miss Griffiths are recovering well but unfortunately not at a level where they are able to work in school. We are, however, hopeful at this point, that Mrs Greenwood will return towards the end of next week. Staff absence is one of those challenges that is out of our control, but we are fortunate in that we have some regular, wonderful supply teachers who enjoy working in our school, which provides as much consistency for the children as possible. We do also appreciate though that this has not been the ideal start to our Reception children's year. Miss Knowles has been doing an amazing job of leading work for both classes and later in this newsletter, Reception parents/carers can read about specific objectives the children have been working on.

Please remember that we are passionate about working closely with our parents/carers, enabling mutually open and supportive relationships; we are always fully approachable. You can email ([ralphbutterfield.school@york.gov.uk](mailto:ralphbutterfield.school@york.gov.uk)) or telephone (01904 768325) and we will ensure you can meet/speak with the most relevant staff member for your need. You can also have a quick chat with staff at the beginning and/or end of the day on the playground if you do drop off/pick up.

I hope you can all enjoy a lovely weekend.



### Upcoming Events

20/11/2021	Dance Festival
25/11/2021	Flu Vaccinations in school
26/11/2021	PTA Film Night
01/12/2021	Open Event for prospective parents



This week we have continued to learn about **Diwali**. We made beautiful decorations and we have hung them proudly in our classroom for all to see!

We have also learnt about **Children in need** and involved ourselves in lots of **Pudsey** themed activities. The children listened to the story of Pudsey's great fundraiser and then followed this up with some beautiful writing. We are so pleased to see how the children are retaining the sounds they have been learning in phonics and applying them in their writing. They should all be very proud of themselves – we are certainly proud of them!



The children have been introduced to this year's **Nativity 'The wiggly nativity'** and the accompanying songs. We are telling you in warning, as I'm sure they will be sharing the catchy tunes with you before too long! Similar to last year, this year's Nativity will be filmed in school and then compiled and sent home once complete. At school we will provide the costumes and opportunities to practise their lines and dance routines so that at home you can simply enjoy the finished product together. We have had such wonderful feedback from last year's parents/carers as they really enjoyed having the lasting memento of their child's first Nativity experience. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact a member of the team.



We hope you have a wonderful weekend and look forward to seeing you next week.

**Miss Knowles & the EYFS team**



## Learning in Reception

Since starting school in September, the children in our Reception classes have been very busy beginning their early reading and maths learning; they have developed new skills through a range of fun and exciting opportunities, in dedicated lessons, small groups and also in our engaging areas of provision.



The children have now learnt all the Phase 2 letter sounds and these can be reinforced through playing games (Buried Treasure, Dragon's Den or Picnic on Pluto) on the website Phonics Play <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> (using the login-ralph1 / password-Butterfield).

Phase 2 sounds include - s, a, t, p, i, n, m, t, d, o, c, k, e, u, r, h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss

With this knowledge of letter sounds, children will be beginning to orally sound out and blend these sounds together to read words (containing Phase 2 sounds).



Each week, the children have also been learning and exploring numbers, including how to write them, what the digit represents, counting objects up to that number and ordering numbers (within those learnt), through a range of different activities. I'm sure the children would love to show you their understanding of numbers so far when they're playing at home. This week they have learnt about the number 5.

**Mrs Robinson**



## Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)



What a lovely creative week we have had in Key Stage One! Each class has started to turn their shoe boxes into their very own Amazon Rainforest. The children have shown their creative sides to represent the layers of the rainforest, animal's habitats and even the Amazon River. We can't wait to add in the finishing touches to them!



All classes have shown great skills in our REAL PE Gymnastic sessions this week. We've seen fantastic tuck, star, pike, straddle and straight shapes and balances been performed. As well as superb gymnastic moves, everyone has also shown that they have been respectful, safe and ready when using the equipment.



Mrs Robinson, Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Reeves and Miss Keith.



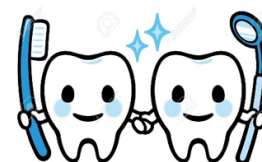
## Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

This week has been very hands-on for the children in Year 3 and 4 and we have been amazed by their eagerness for learning, careful work and resilience when things didn't quite go as expected. In history, they learned all about farming practices in Ancient Egypt and compared them to modern methods. They also had lots of fun getting mucky making their own irrigation systems in compost and testing them to help them understand how innovative the Ancient Egyptians were in digging ditches and channels to transport water from the Nile to all their fields, however far from the river.



The children started the building part of their DT projects to build a shaduf. A shaduf was the simple machine that the Ancient Egyptians used to lift water from the River Nile and put it into irrigation ditches or even storage pools. Previously, the children made their plans for their shadufs after they had learned about all the different types of shadufs and how we know the Egyptians used them. They also learned the mechanics and parts of a shaduf including the technical vocabulary for each part and found out how levers make lifting heavy things much easier.

In science, the children have been learning about human teeth. They were amazed to learn that there are different types of teeth, including incisors, canines, premolars and molars, which all have specific roles in the chewing of food. Using mirrors and dental mirrors, they then had a good look at their own teeth and noticed that they have a mixture of adult and baby teeth. Through a reading activity, they also found out about how our teeth can be damaged by some foods and drinks and about how to care for them properly.



Great work, Year 3 and 4 another super week!

Please do come and speak to us if you have any questions or queries.

We hope you have a fabulous weekend.

Miss Hodgson, Mrs Greenwood, Mrs Petruso and Miss Clapham



## Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

In science, we have continued our work on plants looking specifically at pollination and fertilisation. We learnt about the importance of insects in this process – especially bees!



As part of our Industrial Revolution topic, we have learnt more about the jobs undertaken by children. We looked at chimney sweeping, factory workers, maids and mining. The children were horrified to learn of some of the conditions they had to work in and how little they were paid.

Well done to everyone in Year 5 and 6 for continuing to make us proud with their hard work and positive attitudes.

Please contact us or speak to us directly if you have any questions or concerns.

**Mr Daniel, Mrs Stephenson & Mr Tod**

## PTA



### Christmas Film Night on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November

We are showing 2 films:

The Grinch (U) - Year 3 and 4 at 4.15-5.45pm

The Rise of the Guardians (PG) Year 5 and 6 at 6.00-7.40pm

£3 per ticket (including a biscuit and hot chocolate with marshmallows)

£1 Hot Dogs available

Please bring a cushion or blanket to sit on. Christmas Dress up welcome!

**Please read the Film Night letter sent out this week about drop off and pick up arrangements.**

### Christmas Eve Bags

We will be selling Christmas Eve Treat Bags again this year. Hopefully it will be something fun and one less thing to think about for your children on Christmas Eve. Including hot chocolate, reindeer food (wildlife friendly), some sweet treats, activity sheet and a decoration to decorate.



Order Forms (which is an envelope) have gone out this week they will be **£5 each** and all money raised will go to school. The deadline for orders will be **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

**Please pop all completed forms with cash/cheque inside in the Post Box in the playground**

ALL Children in receipt of free school meals the through pupil premium scheme will automatically receive a Treat Bag unless you would prefer them not to (please speak to Mrs Moss or Mrs Robinson).

### The BIG Christmas Prize Draw

Thank you everyone who has bought Raffle Tickets so far – please share the link with family and friends



This is the link: [RBs BIG Christmas Prize Draw](#) or this QR code



Calling all **TESCO** shoppers – please keep using your Blue Coins to support RBs.

We have a box in all Tesco stores until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021. Thank you.



**Joanne Barrow—Chair PTA**